Listing of the Claims

A complete listing of the pending claims, indicating the status of each claim, follows.

1-8. (Withdrawn)

9. (Original) A method for mapping a first file object identifier having a first bit size to a second file object identifier having a second bit size comprising the steps:

(a) receiving said first file object identifier associated with a file object;

(b) transforming said first file object identifier into said second file object identifier based on at least one file system characteristic; and

(c) providing said second file object identifier to facilitate access to said file object.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said file object is one of a file, a directory, and a symbolic link.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said second bit size is less than said first bit size.

12. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said first file object identifier comprises a disk volume value, a disk block value and a block offset value.

13. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said at least one file system characteristic comprises limiting the number of disks available in any logical volume to a 4 bit value.

14. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said at least one file system characteristic comprises limiting the address granularity within a disk block to at least 32 bytes.

15. (Previously amended) The method of claim 9 wherein said at least one file system characteristic comprises limiting file object lengths to at least 128 bytes.

16. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said second file object identifier is a POSIX file serial number.

17. (Original) An article of manufacture having computer-readable program means embodied therein for mapping a first file object identifier having a first bit size to a second file object identifier having a second bit size, the article comprising:

(a) computer-readable program means for receiving said first file object identifier associated with a file object;

(b) computer-readable program means for transforming said first file object identifier into said second file object identifier based on at least one file system characteristic; and

(c) computer-readable programs means for providing said second file object identifier to facilitate access to said file object.

18. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said file object is one of a file, a directory, and a symbolic link.

19. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said second bit size is less than said first bit size.

20. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said first file object identifier comprises a disk volume value, a disk block value and a block offset value.

21. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said at least one file system characteristic comprises limiting the number of disks available in any logical volume to a 4 bit value.

22. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said at least one file system characteristic comprises limiting the address granularity within a disk block to at least 32 bytes.

23. (Previously amended) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said at least one file system characteristic comprises limiting file object lengths to at least 128 bytes.

24. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said second file object identifier is a POSIX file serial number.

25-28. (Withdrawn)

29. (Original) A method for mapping a first file object identifier having a first bit size to a second file object identifier having a second bit size comprising the steps:

(a) receiving said first file object identifier associated with a file object;

(b) extracting a disk block value and a disk volume value from said first file object identifier;

(c) locating a file object in a location on a disk specified by said extracted disk block value and said extracted disk volume value;

(d) computing a temporary file object identifier for said located file object;

(e) iterating step (d) for file objects in said specified location on the disk until the temporary file object identifier matches said first file object identifier;

(f) computing a second file object identifier for said file object with said temporary file object identifier matching said first file object identifier; and

(g) providing said second file object identifier.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29 wherein said first file object identifier is a POSIX file serial number.